

BOARD OF MADISON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
February 26, 2008 MINUTES

On Tuesday, February 26, 2008, a meeting of the Board of Madison County Commissioners came to order at 9:40 a.m. with Commissioners Marilyn Ross, and Jim Hart present. David Schulz was absent to attend the annual weed convention in Washington, D.C.

Marilyn Ross moved to approve the February 19, 2008, minutes as corrected. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried. Marilyn Ross moved to approve the February 22, 2008, work session minutes as read. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Those people in attendance at the meeting were Jill Steeley, Bill Doggett, Connie Daniels, Kim Krueger, and Barbie Durham.

Claims: The Board approved claims.

County Facility Space Requirements: The Board discussed an offer from Dawn Hagedorn, Clear Creek Realty, to tour the Doyle house. The Board will wait to request this tour when David Schulz has returned to the office. The Board acknowledged information from Bundy Bailey, Clerk of Court, that she has researched the issue and there is no mental health treatment center in Townsend as reported at the last Law and Justice Center meeting.

Facility Advisory Committee Funding Request: Per request from the committee, Marilyn Ross moved to allocate up to \$2500 to the Madison County Facility Advisory Committee for secretarial services, paper, postage, copying fees, advertisements, and other miscellaneous items. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Great West Task Order #15 – CDBG: Marilyn Ross moved to approve Task Order No. 15 from Great West Engineering to work with the Madison County Grants Department to prepare an application to the Community Development Block Grant Program for funding of infrastructure improvements to the County's two nursing homes. Jim Hart seconded the motion. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Public Health Mill Levy Request: Jill Steeley, Public Health Administrator, met with the Board to discuss placing a mill levy request for the Public Health Department on the ballot for the Primary Election in June. Bill Doggett, Public Health Board member and Former Madison County Commissioner, was also present for this portion of the meeting. Jill provided the Board with a copy of the Public Health Board Minutes showing their support for a 2.5 mill levy request for the Public Health Department. Jill stated that the department currently receives approximately \$45,000 from the general fund and approximately \$55,000 from a Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness Grant. Because she has been notified that the Homeland Security funding would be diminishing by 20% in the next funding cycle and probably more after that, they would like to run a 2.5 mill levy to replace both funding sources and provide additional funding to increase services provided by the department. Increased services would possibly include respite care for homebound residents, senior services, and mental health related services. Bill Doggett stated that he had voted for the mill levy request at the Public Health Board meeting, but wanted to voice concerns about an increase to the public health budget. Bill stated that nobody is against the Public Health Department but questioned the fact that the program originated with Homeland Security funds and because the funds are decreasing the burden is being put back on the taxpayers. Bill cautioned that government is growing at all levels and feels there is a need to be cautious. Jill stated that she has looked for grant money for the department but has been unsuccessful in finding funds and would like to let the voters decide if they want to fund this program. Jill will talk to Dr. Sarah Googe and Dr. Jaye Swoboda about revisions to a flyer she has prepared. The Board will reconsider this request at their next regular meeting.

Appropriations Request: Kim Krueger, Field Representative for Senator Max Baucus, and Connie Daniels, Field Representative for Senator Jon Tester, met with the Board to discuss appropriations requests. Barbie Durham, Grant Writer, was also present for this portion of the meeting. Marilyn Ross expressed the need for funding to restore historical buildings at the Twin Bridges Fair Grounds. Barbie stated that there are nine buildings at the fairgrounds in need of repairs but the Round Building, Grand Stands, and the Square Building are the three most needing restoration. Marilyn and Barbie also discussed the need for senior services in the Twin Bridges area, pointing out that the Masons are willing to allow the use of their building for food services but the cost of making the kitchen functional would cost \$60,000 to \$70,000. Jim Hart discussed the Ennis Fish Hatchery, stating that it creates an enormous amount of recreational revenue for not only Madison County but the surrounding area and several other states. He stated that funding is continuously being cut and that they are down to a bare minimum of employees. Experimental studies that have been conducted there in the past have

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diminished because of the lack of funds and production has been drastically reduced. Housing needs in Madison County were also discussed. Kim and Connie will email on-line appropriations forms to Barbie. Barbie will request appropriations for the Fairgrounds buildings and Senior Services in Madison County, stating that there is nothing concrete yet to ask for regarding the Housing issue and that the Fish Hatchery is an awareness issue to both the Senators that the facility is an asset to Madison County and continued funding is a necessity.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

David Schulz, Chairman
Board of Madison County Commissioners

Date Approved: March 4, 2008

Minutes prepared by:

Laurie Buyan, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Kaatz, Clerk and Recorder, Madison County